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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1913.

# **VIRGINIA'S UNWRITTEN HISTORY.**

Not a tenth of the history of Virginia has been reduced to the enduring type. Volume piles on volume, but before the historian stretches wide the untouched field. Proud of our past we are, yet we have left and are leaving undone much in the preservation of the glorious record of Virginia's yesterday. We acknowledge gladly that we are praisers of past time, but surely no one can charge us with over-reverence as its chroniclers. In dust-mantled records, diaries and packets of letters stored away and forgotten in cellar and garret, in county and State records, in the recollection of elders soon to pass from our ken, is a wealth of unwritten Virginia history that ought to be written.

Consider one phase of the broad subject. Biography is the essence of history. Yet when we scan the long line of illustrious Virginians who have left their impress upon the life of the nation, and when we reflect upon the comparatively negligible number of biographies that have been written about them, we are appalled. The Times-Dispatch last week called attention to the need for authoritative narratives of the lives and influence of John M. Daniel and George Wythe, two great sons of the Old Dominion. Professor D. R. Anderson, of the department of history in Richmond College, declares in a communication in our issue of to-day that he "could make a lengthy list of men, as prominent as were Wythe and Daniel, about whom little is known. As a matter of fact, the great Virginians of whom definitive biographies have appeared could be counted on our fingers."

Who is to do this work? We must depend almost wholly upon our own historians in Virginia. There are a number of them who, with patriotic devotion to Virginia and fidelity to the truth of her history, have already done much in this field, and who will do much more. Yet they and serious handicaps in their way, for, as Professor Anderson says, "they are struggling along, sometimes, it must be confessed, discouraged by lack of financial resources, lack of leisure from regular occupations and lack of popular interest in really scholarly work." These men, most of them young men, do deserve "all the encouragement the papers and public-spirited citizens can give." They deserve more. Men who preserve the history of the State by recording it and by rescuing historical material from oblivion, are entitled to substantial assistance from public-spirited Virginians or from the State itself. The preparation and publication of historical work is costly. We should aid the men who are doing so much to portray the past permanently for us and for posterity.

Virginia owes an inextinguishable debt to her excellent company of historians. Surely none deserve better of the Commonwealth than they who, with infinite patience and exquisite toil, are weaving from a thousand threads gathered from as many places the fabric depicting the life of Virginia and her great sons.

In one of the trenches dug during the War Between the States, fires were started a few days ago, and carcasses of mutton cooked over them "to a nicey that would suit a Queen's taste," so that 150 "swart, hungry" Spotsylvanians might feast. The Fredericksburg Star smacks its lips and tells of mutton, brown, juicy, sweet, delicious, some barbecued, and great pots of Brunswick stew, hot, rich and well-seasoned, accompanied by crisp corn pone. Fifty years ago Spotsylvanians and their comrades in gray, who were in those trenches, lived almost on imaginary "cushions."

The Cleveland Plain Dealer is fussing about a 14-page page letter, but Richmond's vision of loveliness is about two years behind the docket with the mail from males.

New York is tickled to death because its police force has solved one of the annual list of murders in that elevated metropolis.

Sulzer's is a case of denying the hind impeachment.

Mr. Bryan's revised currency views seem to receive gold, silver and currency on the same basis.

The tight skirt wearers ought to adopt that elegant "Safety Pant."

Richmond apparently believes in never fixing a bridge until you come to it.

Sir Oliver Lodge's argument that there is continuity and personality after death ought to make the old Republican party "a little peartier."

Postmaster-General Burleson wants some trick for holding packages of letters that does not demand string. What we want is some substitute for the mucilage on stamps that will make 'em stick.

# **THE SCHOOL AS A MISSIONARY.**

How can Virginia reach out through its rural schools to make the life of its people fuller and happier? No greater question confronts the State. That progress is being made to have the schoolhouse the centre of community life is shown in the bulletin just issued by the State Co-operative Educational Association. That organization has helped in the forming of some 500 school and civic leagues, which hold regular meetings in the schoolhouses of Virginia. The moving idea of such groups is to care for the school, to make it beautiful, to provide equipment, and from it to send into the surrounding people new ideas and new aspirations. So are built better schools and provided social centres where the neighborhood life may flourish.

A hint as to what may be done through schools is contained in a letter published on this page. It is pointed out that the Oregon State Agricultural College endeavors to reach the village and the farm by beginning with the school grounds. Modern ideas of beauty, sanitation and comfort are expressed by model school grounds. Community pride takes these ideals home. The farm is improved, and the future of the village is planned with more attention to beauty and convenience. The college furnishes plans by which old towns can be made neat and attractive. The State sends out missionaries through the schools.

In Virginia, the Educational Association, with its leagues of patrons, offers to the Virginia Polytechnic Institute admirable machinery for work of this type. All that we need is a central storehouse of modern ideas and the necessary energy and publicity to get the information from the central reservoir. President Eggleston will be the first to help in such development. His experience with creating model schoolhouses and grounds as State Superintendent will suggest a thousand ways in which the equipment and teachers at Blacksburg can serve the whole rural population by showing separate districts how they can improve their surroundings. The university has already begun what might be called intellectual extension through its lectures. The long list of men ready to talk before schools published by the Educational Association offers rich choice. Now, let us get V. P. I. to help on the physical side, and the rural school of Virginia can be made a magnificent engine of power.

# **THE SULZER TRIAL.**

If William Sulzer shall escape removal from office, his largest debt of gratitude must be to the fathers who framed the Constitution of the State of New York. If he had gone to bar before the State Senate alone yesterday, he could not have entertained half the hope that to-day he feels, for suspicion beclouds that body. It is in the fact that the most important constituent of the court of appeals is the Court of Appeals, the supreme judicial bench of the State, that Sulzer must rest his confidence. That court, sitting jointly with the Senate, may not be the judge of the facts, but it must be the judge of the law and of the competency of the evidence.

The accused has announced that the court of impeachment will give him a "fair trial," that it will rise above personal prejudices, and that it will "do me justice." By the presence of the Court of Appeals he is assured of a just trial, whether a just verdict result or not. His legal rights will be safeguarded.

The country hopes that the judgment in the Sulzer case will not be based in personal or political prejudice, but founded in justice. The country hopes that President Wagner, of the State Senate, is altogether correct in his opinion that "Every Senator feels the same responsibility in this grave matter as if he were a justice of the Court of Appeals."

If William Sulzer is guilty of the high crimes and misdemeanors with which he is charged, he should be convicted and forever disqualified to hold any office of honor or trust in the State of New York; if he is innocent on the evidence of the case, but is convicted on its politics, the country will convict Tammany Hall of the greatest political crime committed in any State since the atrocities of the carpetbag era.

That hitherto terrible instrument of justice, the habeas corpus, seems to be losing its grip.

If our Fire Commissioners get much more inflammable, the insurance rates will be raised.

It now appears why four preachers of Highland County did not send in their primary results. They held no primary. Simple, isn't it? Also, it's a great system that gets no record of where they held primaries for weeks after the event.

Here's a shock for old cost of living. The price of electricity has gone down 17 per cent since 1905. Isn't there some device that will enable us to attach our mouths to a socket for a few nice tender volts?

Whose independence do they celebrate on Mexico's Independence Day?

British scientists are in complete agreement as to the origin of life. They think we are no nearer a solution than a thousand years ago.

The freshman will observe that there's many a slip twixt matriculation and graduation.

Now is the autumn when the college widow preens for her fifteenth annual campaign upon the unsuspecting freshmen.

Football etiquette is a peculiar thing. "I don't want to hear any more of this 'excuse me' business," yelled Coach Jones this week to the Yale squad. "Now give us your sign, Mr. Quarterback." Pardon us, coach, but why the "Mr."?

# **COMPLETING HER HUMILIATION.**

In treating directly with Turkey, whom she had at her feet at the close of the first Balkan War, Bulgaria completes the bitter humiliation she brought upon herself by her grasping policy, her treachery towards her allies, and the opportunity she offered Turkey to disregard the London treaty and reoccupy Adrianople. The negotiations have not been concluded on all points, but it is conceded that unless Turkey presses for conditions that contravene the interests of the powers, these will not interfere.

Among the losses to Bulgaria, when she shall have finally made peace with Turkey, which are foreshadowed, and which the powers will not attempt to prevent, are retention of Adrianople by the Turks for the present, the shrinkage of prospective new territory, which would have constituted her a state as large as England and Wales combined, as contemplated in the London treaty, to only about 7,000 or 8,000 square miles, and the decrease of a prospective population of some 7,000,000 to less than 5,000,000. Meanwhile she will suffer the additional mortification of seeing practically all of Macedonia, save a negligible fragment, divided between Serbia and Greece, with whom, in her insatiable greed and inordinate arrogance, she flagrantly broke faith, even so far as the former was concerned, to the extent of covertly conspiring with Austria-Hungary.

In referring to Turkish possession of Adrianople, we have said "for the present." For, interestingly and significantly enough, it is clearly in evidence that, although having decided not to interfere save in the circumstances of their interests being involved, as above indicated, the powers regret none the less the turn of affairs. The tone of the inspired and semi-inspired organs of the London concert, in defining the policy of abstention of the powers, shows plainly that the Turko-Bulgarian agreement is far from being expected to settle the Balkan question, save temporarily. That fact is signally voiced in one of the most prominent of these organs, when, after questioning the ultimate value of the recovery of Adrianople to the Turks, it adds:

There is much that must be developed and reorganized in the Asiatic provinces, and the Turkish empire is not likely to last unless those parts of the Sultan's dominions receive the attention that has long been due to them. It is unfortunate, while there exists this crying demand for the consolidation and renewal of Ottoman influence in Asia, that the attention of the people and the government should still be directed towards the West. This policy is not likely, whatever the present hopes of Constantinople may be, to have much result beyond keeping Turkey involved in the troubles of the Balkan Peninsula.

Therein is a grave warning to Turkey. It carries unequivocal rebuke to the Porte for ignoring the London treaty. It serves unmistakable notice that Bulgarian divorce from the sympathy of the powers does not mean sympathy with Turkey, and forecasts not only where the powers will stand when the Ottoman's hold in Europe is again jeopardized, but possible indifference or worse when, as a last resort, the effort shall be made to rehabilitate and regenerate Turkey in Asia. In the contention quoted is echoed Europe's weariness not merely of the whole Balkan, but of the whole Ottoman, question.

# **HONORING THE CRIMINAL.**

The so-called perverted criminals seem to us not so perverted as the part of the public that finds something to honor in murder, or in the continued exploitation of the brutal being who has slain Thaw and Schmidt furnish simultaneous examples of how we have fallen away from the plain sense and justice of other days. The millionaire paranoiac is greeted with cheers, led by women; he receives gifts and letters of condolence; he is crowned with a vicious halo, instead of being treated with stern pity. The German fiend is regarded as somebody superhuman. His versatility is a theme for eulogy; his cleverness receives more comment than his horrid vices; we are led from the blunt evil of his crimes to an ingenious consideration of his dual personality, or of his psychological strangeness.

What is needed is a revival of plain thinking in plain words. The solemn word "sin" should not be dropped from our vocabulary in favor of psychological subtleties. Lust and murder are not too strong for daily use as terms that prevent the false idea in ignorant minds that to be a peculiarly atrocious murderer demonstrates some elements of greatness. Compassion may dictate the belief that crime is at bottom a disease, but since when have we taken to reclaiming diseases or crowning them with adulation?

If Schmidt is crazy, then his deeds are no evidence of mental strength or veracity. He is not responsible, but has been merely the plaything of his own madness. His condition calls for that pity we feel for all such as are afflicted by a grievous visitation. He should be cared for without maudlin vapors. If he is not crazy, then doubly black and appalling become his heart and mind. Honest men and women should shudder away from the very thought of such wickedness. That the brain to have planned this murder, and the steel spirit to have executed it under the most gruesome conditions, should have been so wasted is too sad for aught but silence and swift punishment.

"Mexican Liquor Flowing Freely," says a headline. If it's mesal the Americans and Mexicans are lapping up in Mexico City, look out for war sure enough. It's the stuff that they say turns a "down dows" into a "beard."

Why shouldn't they kill a big American eagle in Goodland? Didn't Virginia give birth to the original American eagle?

"The Irish Strike Makes the Poor Hungry."—Headline. That's the net result of most strikes, Irish or otherwise.

# **ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT**

By ROY K. MOULTON.

**The Diary of a Housewife.**  
 As a bit of domestic and refined satire I gave my wife for Christmas a cook book. Yesterday I came to the hospital, where I am now doing as well as can be expected, several months elapsed between those two events, and you may have noticed, and I nearly elapsing myself.

Young man, never give your wife a cook book even in a spirit of merriment, for you will live to regret it, or maybe you won't live. It all depends upon the state of your constitution. We were having plain old-fashioned, homely fare when I thought of the plan to give my wife a cook book. I thought it would put her wise to the fact that there were other things to eat than beef and cabbage and beans. It was just a sort of gentle hint, though she did not mind it. She tumbled to the hint as readily as though she had been given a direct order, and the day after she got the cook book from me she began to make things out of it.

She forgot all about the old-fashioned fare and began to sit up nights with the cook book in one hand and an egg beater in the other, concocting a line of polite and aristocratic food for the next day.

We had cheese, ramblers, cream puffs, souffles and three or four different kinds of a la modes for breakfast. She was getting even. It was easy to see that. She had me groggy in two weeks, and in four weeks I could have given \$1 for a good pound of homemade pork and beans. I never saw a woman as devoted to a subject as my wife was to that cook book. It was her religion.

She used up about \$15 worth of fancy groceries every day, and when I objected she merely referred me to the cook book I had given her. With my disfigurement and my only one cylinder I went to see my doctor. He said:

"You had better come just in time. One more week and a lot of people would be looking at you and saying: 'Doesn't he look like a nurse?'"

When I got home from the hospital I am going to hire a burglar to break in at night and steal that cook book.

# **From the Hickeyville Clarion.**

Hank Tumms feels mighty high-toned since he went down to the city to have his eyes examined. The specialist said Hank had compound myopia, or astigmatism complicated with hyperopia. They will have to keep him in the city for a hard time keeping him out of the smart set of polite society now.

The Clarion announced last week the engagement of Mr. Elmer Jones, the popular canvasser for the Handy Household Companion, to Miss Amy Pringle, our village miller.

Our wish to deny the allegation, which was brought to this office by a mutual friend of both parties, but we refuse to retract, for the Clarion having said they are engaged, they are engaged, and only their own pride keeps them to do under the circumstances is to get married. They ought to have been married fourteen years ago, anyhow.

Rev. Hudnut, pastor of the Hard Street Church, says the latest in plastering and paperhanging business is so poor as a side line in this man's life that he may have to accept a call to a larger field.

Amie Hilliker, our popular and congenial grocerwoman, also ice cream, shoe, blacking, lining, and plaster and tar roofing sale, reports to Constable Ezra Hand that some parties worked the combination on his burglar-proof, Dill pickle barrel one night this week and got away with two or three dozen. Local talent is suspected.

# **The Panshurst Spinsters.**

The man who weds a Panshurst girl will surely have a snap. Not only will he have to support her, but he will be across his placid map.

He can stay out as many nights as he likes, but he will have to come home one night to call him down or smash him with a dish.

He will not have to make excuse and fear that it will fail. For every night he comes home his wife will be in jail.

A Martyr.  
 Folks always look at me askance. As though they would not take a chance on my veracity.

They have a doubt concerning me. I have a doubt concerning me. I have often led them astray. By promising a lot of things, and then said promises took wings. For every night I say that I will keep my word to every try, but that I do the best I can.

Who am I? I'm the Weather Man.

# **Voice of the People**

**Productive Historical Scholarship in Virginia.**  
 To the Editor of the Times-Dispatch:—Sir:—Your editorial of last Friday on George Wythe and John M. Daniel was of considerable interest to me. I think it commendable that The Times-Dispatch should be lending the aid of its influence to the efforts of historical students to tell again in an accurate and scholarly, as well as interesting, manner the story of our State and people. You do well to call attention to the opportunity for historical writing that is afforded by the lives of men like Wythe and Daniel, about whom little is known. As a matter of fact, the great Virginians of whom definitive biographies have appeared could be counted on our fingers.

There are a number of men, particularly young men, who are laboring at tasks similar to that which you mentioned. They are struggling along, sometimes, it must be confessed, discouraged by lack of financial resources, lack of leisure from regular occupation, and lack of popular interest in really scholarly work. But, in addition to the records of our State and people, they are struggling to find and revivify materials bearing on the history of Virginia and the South. They need all the encouragement the papers and public-spirited citizens can give.

The great writer is especially interested in your remarks as to George

# **Abe Martin**

**THE LETTERS.**  
 Are the Letters an old family? R. P. STEWART.  
 The founder of the "family" was Levi Zeigler Letter, born in Maryland in 1834. He was the father of Lady Curzon and the Countess of Suffolk and Joseph Letter.

**Wedding Present.**  
 Is one expected to send a present when he receives a wedding announcement? J. T. A.

**No.**

**Old Coins.**  
 How may I get a list showing the value of old coins? READER.  
 Send stamped and addressed envelope to the Query Column and get addresses of dealers, then write them for such catalogues and lists as you desire.

**Preparatory Schools.**  
 Can you give a list of preparatory schools in Virginia where one may work his way through, in part at least? J. R. R.  
 Schools, Capitol Building, Richmond, Va. He is extremely well acquainted with the conditions in the State, and may be able to give you the information.

# **COMMERCIALIZING SUICIDE.**

By John T. McCutcheon.

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# **Short News Stories From All Over Virginia**

# **BUSINESS MEN PRAISE TROOPS.**

**Officers and Soldiers Commended for Bearing at Winchester.**  
 Winchester, Va., September 18.—At a meeting Tuesday night of the Business Men's Association of Winchester, held in the Chamber of Commerce, a resolution was adopted that the Business Men's Association endorse and commend the conduct and bearing of the troops and officers of the Cavalry regiments during their stay in Winchester this summer, that such a resolution be properly drawn, and that engraved copies be furnished the commanding officer of the Cavalry regiments.

The meeting was called to order and presided over by S. L. Lupton, president of the association. Several members of representative business men of Winchester were present.

In a brief speech Mr. Ward explained his resolution, declaring that the officers of the Cavalry regiments have shown themselves to be men well worthy to wear the uniform of the United States Army, and that the officers and soldiers of the Cavalry regiments have shown themselves to be men well worthy to wear the uniform of the United States Army, and that the officers and soldiers of the Cavalry regiments have shown themselves to be men well worthy to wear the uniform of the United States Army.

Very respectfully,  
 WILLIAM M. KING,  
 Ballston, Va.

# **OLD RECORDS RECOVERED.**

**Show Entrance and Clearance of British Vessels at Fredericksburg.**  
 Fredericksburg, Va., September 18.—Dorsey Cole, Jr., came across some old papers at Goldrick's Modern Pharmacy while clearing out a desk there, among them a ledger containing the entry and clearance of British vessels at Fredericksburg from 1862 to 1865. These papers are of interest at this time, as conditions have so changed since that time.

Some of the entries are as follows:  
 Schooner Citron, of Halifax, N. S., arrived October 1, 1862. This vessel sailed for New York, carrying four tons of cargo, value of cargo, \$304.14. This vessel sailed for New York, carrying four tons of cargo, value of cargo, \$304.14.

Schooner Emerald, arrived from Halifax, N. S., October 1, 1862. This vessel sailed for New York, carrying four tons of cargo, value of cargo, \$304.14.

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# **PHIFER MEMORIAL IN PLACE.**